

HUDDERSFIELD BIRDWATCHERS CLUB

Minutes of the 48th Annual General Meeting held at Huddersfield Town Hall at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9th December 2014.

21 Members attended the meeting and there were no apologies for absence.

The minutes of the 2013 AGM, which had been placed on the website after that meeting, were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were duly signed by the President, Mike Wainman. There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

President's Report

MW gave a brief report which was issued to all those attending and a copy is placed on file. He reported that John Walker has concluded that he cannot continue as Indoor meetings Organiser and Treasurer and has tendered his resignation but will continue on the Committee. It should be remembered he stepped forward as Treasurer 2 years ago when we were struggling to find someone to fulfil the role. The meeting joined the President and Committee in a vote of thanks to John.

Stuart Brocklehurst has also decided to step down from the Committee because of pressure of work and MW thanked him for his contribution on the Committee and also for his work on the report and newsletter.

MW went on to detail our successes which include a great lecture programme, the production of the 2013 Annual Report which was handed out at the meeting, the commencement of a nest box scheme where we use the Bridgewood Trust to make them and hand them over to local woods for installation. 4 Patch outings were run in the Spring but were thinly attended, the Committee wish to seek views as to whether they should continue.

MW said we urgently needed people to come forward to help on the Committee. We no longer have a Treasurer although MW will do this role temporarily until someone is elected. The Committee have agreed that the club will function until the end of the season but if we cannot find new Committee members the future of the club is at stake. He will be writing to all Club members to set out the position and make an appeal for help.

Treasurer's Report

The accounts are not ready so they were unable to be presented to the meeting. They will be presented at a future indoor meeting with a Treasurer's report when completed.

Recorder's Report

David Butterfield asked that 2014 records be sent in as soon as possible and no later than the end of February which is the cut off date to allow the preparation of records for the authors of the Annual report.

Conservation Report

Mike Denton that no issues had arisen in the past year. This is mainly because of the excellent work that Jeff Keenleyside does at Kirklees M.C. in looking at Planning Applications

Election of Officers

The proposals placed on the Agenda were unanimously accepted by the meeting as follows to serve 2 years;

Secretary	Chris Abell
Conservation	Mike Denton
Recorder	David Butterfield
Publicity	Roger Mitchell
Committee Member	Stephen Cook

The meeting unanimously agreed that Mike Wainman should act as Treasurer and that Alf King becomes Indoor Meetings Organiser.

It was recorded that there are 8 Committee members, the minimum number required by the Constitution. We have 2 vacancies which can be filled at anytime by co-option by the Committee.

The meeting also unanimously agreed that John Walker is elected as a Life Member.

Auditor

The meeting approved unanimously the appointment of Reg Senior as Auditor

Any Other Business

Stephen Frost noted that the number of members was declining and a ideas were suggested for attracting new members, including organising trips out of Huddersfield. It was noted that social media have taken away the need for clubs to act as a networking conduit. Betty Barrens suggested a stall at Huddersfield University Freshers Fair. The Committee agreed to consider the ideas.

Ian Batty asked if it was possible to have more information about locations of sites. It was pointed out that Grid references used to be in Annual reports but take up too much space and a more complete list was placed on the web site. There are plans to have a site guide on the website if help is forthcoming.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm followed by an excellent presentation by Stephen Cook on Australian birds.

Signed

Date